

# Bulletin

FEBRUARY 26th, 1948

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## LIONEL GELBER WILL ADDRESS JUNIOR LEAGUE

**Jewish Agency Executive to Speak on "Palestine at the U.N."**

Mr. Lionel Gelber, Political Advisor to the Jewish Agency for Palestine in the United States, will be the guest speaker at the next meeting of the Junior League. This meeting will be held on Sunday evening, February 29th at 8:30 p.m., in the Vestry of the Synagogue.

Born in Toronto, Canada, Mr. Gelber was educated at Upper Canada College and at the University of Toronto. He was a Rhodes Scholar at Balliol College, Oxford, and spent a number of years in England. At the University of Toronto, as a member of the Department of History, he taught international relations. During the war he served with the Royal Canadian Air Force, from which he retired in 1945 with the rank of Flight-Lieutenant. Before his retirement he directed the Service program of education in public affairs.

Both of his books were published by the Oxford University Press—"The Rise of Anglo-American Friendship" in 1938 and "Peace by Power" in 1942. In addition to many English and Canadian journals, he has contributed in the United States to "The Virginia Quarterly Review" and Foreign Affairs."

The Junior League is at present busy planning its big affair of the year; its Annual Cocktail Dance which this year will take place at the Hotel Pierre on Sunday, April 18th. The Misses Selma Jerskey and Hortense Levy and Mr. Harry Lewis are co-chairmen of this affair, the proceeds of which will go to the United Jewish Appeal. In conjunction with the dance a handsome television set will be awarded. Members of the Congregation will soon be hearing from the Junior League in regard to the television set.

Many members of the Junior League are planning to attend the 21st National Convention of the Young People's League of the United Synagogue which will take place in Atlantic City, N. J.,

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## Sisterhood Luncheon Set for March 31st

Sisterhood's Annual Donor Luncheon and Musicales will be held at the Hotel Astor on March 31st, it was announced by Mrs. H. Osserman and Mrs. S. Wimpfheimer, co-chairmen of the event.

It is important to note that this affair will be the only fund-raising project of the sisterhood for the season and all members are urged to attend.

It is hoped that a considerable sum will be raised by the sale of "Treasure Chest Books". All who sell a complete "Treasure Chest Book" will have earned an invitation to the luncheon. Please send checks to Mrs. W. Karmiol, 400 East 58 Street, New York City.

## Judge Rifkind Honored

The Honorable Simon H. Rifkind, Judge of the United States District and one of our Trustees, will be presented with the Golden Quill at the annual Golden Quill Dinner of the Federal Court Press Association. The dinner will be held at the Commodore on the evening of February 26th. This will be given him in appreciation of his work as advisor to General Eisenhower in connection with Displaced Jewish Persons in Europe.

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## Members To Participate In Symposium March 1st

The symposium of "The Relationship Between American Jewry and The New Judea" sponsored by the Adult Education Committee will take place on Monday Evening, March 1st. This symposium will complete a series of lectures entitled "Blueprint for the New Jewish State" which the Adult Education Committee also sponsored.

Mrs. Rose Schwefel, Lloyd Schaper and Moe Turman will serve as discussion leaders and Harold Levin has been asked to act as moderator for the evening. This is in keeping with the Park Avenue Synagogue policy of having members actively participate in these events.

Several controversial questions will be imposed to arouse active discussion.

(1) Shall the American Zionist organization close up shop now that the Jewish State has been established?

(2) Will the new Jewish State involve a conflict of loyalties?

(3) Shall we look to Palestine to settle our religious problems?

(4) What will be the effect of the New Judea on the American Jewish Community?

Although this concludes the series, members who have not attended the previous lectures will find this meeting still most meaningful.

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

*Sabbath Eve* ..... Friday, February 27th, 8:30 p.m.  
Rabbi Milton Steinberg will preach on  
*The Future Of the American Jew* by Mordecai M. Kaplan  
A Disciple's Agreements and Dissents

*Sabbath Eve* ..... Friday, March 5th, 8:30 p.m.  
Rabbi Morris N. Kertzer will preach on  
*U.S.A.—Military or A Civilian Power?*

*Sabbath Morning* ..... Saturday Mornings, 10:00 a.m.  
*Bachurim* Group at 10:00 a.m.; Junior Congregation Service at 10:00 a.m.



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No. 10

## From the Desk of Rabbi Kertzer

It is welcome news to many congregants that a new Men's Club is about to be launched. Several weeks ago, a group of men to canvass the feasibility of a men's group within the Synagogue. The response was spontaneously enthusiastic. There was singular unanimity about the need for a strong Men's Club that would round out our congregational program in these directions:

First, a welding together of our membership in social fellowship. Though all of us have a full social program, we have had relatively few opportunities for widening our acquaintanceship within the congregation. Our membership roster now contains over 700 families, with the consequence that our associations have tended to become formalized and impersonal. The Men's Club, as a counterpart of the Sisterhood, can contribute materially to a spirit of comradeship and sociability.

In the second place, we have neglected our communal responsibilities as a group. While many congregants are active in every phase of Jewish and civic endeavor, as a congregation we have done little to promote and aid civic enterprises, inter-faith projects, and many social and educational activities that are the common problem of all citizens of our city. It is the intention of the Men's Club to fill this lacuna in our congregational life with an ambitious civic affairs program.

These are but two new avenues that can and should be opened by our Men's

Club. Those of us who have been present at the initial meetings of the interim committee have been delighted with the earnestness and the zest with which they have tackled the many problems confronting a neophyte organization. They have wisely moved at a slow pace. By the end of the season, we will witness the birth of an organization which promises to add much to the vitality and usefulness of our congregation.

When this issue of the BULLETIN is in the hands of the reader, we will be marking National Brotherhood Week. I have often tried to analyze the psychological reasons for that impulse in our national make-up which prompts us to create special weeks devoted to particular ideals or principles.

The simplest psychological explanation is to draw a parallel with the Jewish tradition of festivals, each of them earmarked for contemplation of ideals such as liberty, thanksgiving, reverence for Torah and the like. But the analogy breaks down under closer scrutiny.

There are no biblical provisions enjoining us "to love our neighbor as ourselves — every February or March." Judaism has, I believe with deliberate intent, limited its festival ideals to group experiences rather than to personal ethical precepts. Hence we have no counterpart to the spirit of Christmas, which bids us practice good will at least one season in the year.

Though Brotherhood Week does not draw its inspiration from Jewish tradition, we know that its financial and moral support comes very largely from Jewish sources. During the past year there have been growing signs of cynicism on the part of American Jews about the entire good-will movement. In part, the resentment has stemmed from the publication of editorials by prominent Protestant leaders hailing their good-will work as an excellent beginning towards missionary work among Jews.

My own feeling is that Brotherhood Week can be an instrument for good if it is utilized for a frank appraisal of our inter-faith efforts. I should like to see the week used, not simply as an occasional of fraternal feasting, but of brotherly frankness. I should like to say to my neighbor: "This is a good time to talk with the candor of brothers . . . we will work with you . . . join with you in common enterprises, but let it be

## School Highlights

The Religious School cordially invites all parents to visit the school between February 29 and March 7. This period will be observed as Open House Week. Parents may visit their children's classes in accordance with the following schedule:

February 29th Sunday Sessions —  
Grades 5, 6, 7, 8 and High School.

March 1st and 2nd Weekday Sessions —  
All grades.

March 7th Sunday Sessions — Grades  
1, 2, 3 and 4.

A committee of the Parents' Association will assist in arrangements for visiting classes.

Rabbi Milton Arfa, assistant principal of the Religious School and Club Supervisor, because of an opportunity to join the faculty of Yeshivah University, has found it necessary to relinquish his position in the Religious School. This has necessitated several staff changes. Mr. Samuel Smerling of the Jewish Theological Seminary, is now in charge of the Hebrew Classes. He was formerly a member of the staff of the Religious School of Congregation B'nai Jeshurun. Mr. F. Schoffman, instructor of High School I, is now Club Supervisor. He has had much experience in leading and supervising clubs in this Synagogue and others. Mr. Sanford Hahn will serve as assistant to the principal, Rabbi Kertzer, for Sunday sessions.

Under the direction of Mr. Schoffman, a new club for boys 10, 11 and 12 years of age will meet on Wednesday afternoons at 3:15. Their activities will include photography, sports, hikes and discussions.

Last Sunday morning, classes 6Y and 7Y whose instructors are Mr. Phillips and Mr. Rubenstein, journeyed to the East Side to spend the morning at a local Yeshivah.

clearly understood that you cannot hail our joint efforts as a happy omen that I am about to forsake my heritage to follow your way of life."

I have my doubts if much brotherly life will emerge out of such candor, but if we are to be intellectually honest, that is the only constructive basis upon which genuine brotherhood can be built.

—MORRIS KERTZER



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**Judge Rifkind Honored***(Continued from Page 1)*

There will be many distinguished speakers including the Honorable William O. Douglas, Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court who, incidentally, was a classmate of Judge Rifkind, and the Honorable Tom G. Clark, United States Attorney General. Special guests will include the Honorable Herbert H. Lehman, the Honorable J. Edgar Hoover, and the entire Federal Judiciary in Manhattan.

The Synagogue extends its congratulations to Judge Rifkind and wishes him success for the future.

Mr. Frederick W. Greenfield was honored at the "Y" on Tuesday, February 10th. He is receiving a citation for his services as a Vice President and as a Board member for the past 40 years.

**Births**

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Rosenblum on the birth of a daughter; to Dr. and Mrs. Katz upon the birth of a son, and to the proud grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hamerman.

**Birthdays**

The Synagogue takes pleasure in extending its best wishes to Mr. Julius Guggenheimer and to Mr. Charles Abrams upon their eightieth birthdays; to Mr. Jacob Kline upon his seventieth birthday.

**Deaths**

The Synagogue extends condolences to the families of Mrs. Gussie Spiro and Mrs. Mathilde Gutman upon their recent loss; to Mrs. Sidney Mishkin on the passing of her father, Mr. Silverstein; to Mr. Martin Selig, upon the loss of his father.

The "Young Marrieds" groups are proud to announce that they have collected over \$900.00 for Haganah, which has greatly surpassed their original goal set at \$500.00.

We are happy to welcome back Mrs. Hattie Weinberger, honorary president of the Sisterhood, whose presence we have missed at services.

The Junior Congregation was host to the Junior Congregation of the Society for the Advancement of Judaism, and its leader, Mr. Harold Shulweis, on Saturday morning, February 14th.

The men of the Congregation are urged to reserve April 6th for the first meeting of the Men's Club.

**Lionel Gelber Addresses***(Continued from Page 1)*

from April 2nd to 4th. Dudley L. Greenstein and Louis I. Heller, Junior League officers, are on the Convention committee and any member desiring information and planning to attend is asked to contact them.